

Ruins of Fort Davis

Fort Davis, Texas

HABS No. TX-3102

HABS
TEX,
122-FODA,
1A-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

District of Texas - 3

Historic American Buildings Survey

Bartlett Cocke, District Officer

615 Maverick Bldg., San Antonio, Texas

WASS
TEX
27-1200A

FORT DAVIS

Fort Davis, Jeff Davis County, Texas.

Present Owner: James Estate; John A. James, Attorney, San Antonio, Tex.

Date of Erection: Fort established October 23, 1854; abandoned April 13, 1861; reoccupied July 1, 1867 and present buildings erected.

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Unknown

Present Condition: All buildings in ruins.

Number of Stories: Officer's Quarters: One and two stories
Barracks: One story
Chapel: One story
Hospital: One story
Guard House: One story
Mess Hall: One story
Quartermaster's Warehouse: One story

Materials of Construction: Local stone; wood roof, wood shingles and wood floors.

Other Existing Records: "West Texas Historical and Scientific Publication, Bulletin 21, Number 1;" Report of Assistant Surgeon D. Weisel, U. S. Army, 1869.

Additional Data:

All buildings are practically in ruins. The fort was located in a flat area at the bottom of the foot hills of the Davis Mountains. The plan of the fort was rectangular, with the commanding officers' quarters and the officers quarters facing east onto the parade grounds, the barracks, mess halls, etc. of the enlisted men facing west onto the parade and drill grounds. The Quartermasters' warehouse and corrals were located east of the enlisted men's barracks; the chapel was located at the north end of the quadrangle. The hospital was located west of the officers' quarters. The south end of the quadrangle was open.

General Twiggs ordered the fort turned over to Confederate Texas Commissioners in April 1861. The garrison evacuated and marched for San Antonio, but was captured nine miles from San Antonio on Adams Hill by General Van Dorn, C.S.A. Immediately upon evacuation of the post by U.S. troops, it was occupied by Col. Baylor's Texas troops, who remained until the large amount of stores left by the 8th Infantry was consumed. They evacuated; the fort was then occupied by roving Mexicans and Indian bands, resulting in considerable destruction. The post was reoccupied by U.S. troops July 1st, 1867, and the existing structures were then built.

Author: Bartlett Cocke
Bartlett Cocke, Dist. Officer

Date: March 20, 1937

TW

7/26/37

ASSEMBLY TO
FORT DAVIS
Fort Davis National Historic Site
Fort Davis
Jeff Davis County
Texas

HABS No. TX--3102

HABS
TEX
122-FODA,
1-

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
Department of Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

ADDENDUM TO:
FORT DAVIS
Fort Davis National Historic Site
Texas Route 17
Fort Davis
Jeff Davis County
Texas

HABS TX-3102
HABS TEX, 122-FODA, 1-

FIELD RECORDS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001